

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HELSIN 00804 161751Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01
ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00
COME-00 INR-10 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01
STR-07 TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15 FMC-01 DOTE-00 /096 W
-----009629 170310Z /65

R 161429Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2487
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

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USOECD

DEPT FOR EB/TRAMA

EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: EWWT, FI, UNCTAD
SUBJECT: RE-EVALUATION OF USG PARTICIPATION IN THE FIFTH UNCTAD
INTER-GOVERNMENTAL PREPARATORY GROUP (IPG) ON INTERNATIONAL
MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORT

REF: STATE 024300

MFA (KARKKAINEN AND SATULI) HAS INFORMED EMBASSY
THAT FINLAND WOULD CONTINUE PARTICIPATION "WITH LOW
PROFILE" IN THE IPG EVEN IF THE US SHOULD WITHDRAW. THIS
DECISION WAS DICTATED BY THE MFA'S DESIRE TO MAINTAIN A
POSTURE OF RESPONSIVENESS TOWARD DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
RATHER THAN BY ANY JUDGMENT CONCERNING THE WORK WITHIN
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THE IPG. IN FACT VOLF VON HARPE, CHIEF INSPECTOR IN THE
MINISTRY FOR TRANSPORTATION, HAD EARLIER EXPRESSED SKEPTICISM
TO EMBASSY OFFICERS ABOUT PROSPECTS FOR PRODUCTIVE DEVELOPMENTS
IN THE IPG. HE SAID THAT HE VIEWS POSSIBLE WITHDRAWAL BY THE US
SYMPATHETICALLY AND THAT IN HIS VIEW THE FINNISH
GOVERNMENT OUGHT ALSO TO DROP OUT SINCE THE POSITIONS
OF THE OECD COUNTRIES AND THOSE OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

EXPRESSED IN PAST MEETINGS OF THE IPG WERE WIDELY
DIVERGENT AND HARDLY RECONCILABLE IN THE FORESEEABLE
FUTURE. VON HARPE ADDED THAT THE DECISION ON FINLAND'S
PARTICIPATION IN THE FIFTH IPG WOULD BE TAKEN BY THE
MFA, WHICH MIGHT WELL DECIDE TO CONTINUE PARTICIPATION
FOR THE SAKE OF MAINTAINING A POSITIVE IMAGE ON
ISSUES IMPINGING ON THE NORTH/SOUTH DIALOGUE. AS
INDICATED, THIS WAS IN FACT THE FINAL POSITION TAKEN
BY THE FINNISH GOVERNMENT IN RESPONSE TO OUR
APPROACH.
RIDGWAY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, PLANNING MEETINGS, MEETINGS, INTERMODAL TRANSPORTATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978HELSIN00804
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780118-0493
Format: TEL
From: HELSINKI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780361/aaaabzru.tel
Line Count: 73
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f5234bc6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 24300
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3312790
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RE-EVALUATION OF USG PARTICIPATION IN THE FIFTH UNCTAD INTER-GOVERNMENTAL PREPARATORY GROUP (IPG) ON INTERNATIONAL MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORT
TAGS: EWWT, FI, UNCTAD
To: STATE USOECD
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f5234bc6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014